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SITUATION REPORT NO. 39

SITUATION AS OF 0600 EDT, 04/14/94

• (C) Approximately 12 journalists, including 7 Americans, remain in Kigali at the Milles Collines hotel. Belgian FM Claes has ordered Belgian forces to give "all possible assistance" to evacuate the journalists, and Belgian troops have a convoy underway to reach the hotel to bring them to the airport for evacuation. At least two of the group intend to remain behind in Kigali. (Nairobi 6695, Brussels 4188)

• (U) Fighting continued in Kigali this morning. The RPF has taken more ground in the city, and fighting has moved closer to the airport. The UNAMIR commander has received a commitment from the RPF for a 24-hour extension to permit evacuation of expatriates. Efforts continue to bring the parties together, but a meeting yesterday was cancelled following a press leak. One of our FSNS in Kigali reports that, contrary to earlier reports, the Embassy has not/not been looted. (AP, TF/Gen. Dellaire telcon, TF/RSO Bujumbura telcon)

• (C) In New York, the UNSC ruled out complete withdrawal of its peacekeepers, but made no final decision on the future of UNAMIR. The Belgians pressed for orderly withdrawal of UNAMIR from Rwanda. The U.S. recognized the need for orderly withdrawal of UNAMIR forces under present conditions. The Belgian cabinet met today and expressed appreciation for U.S. support in the UNSC discussions yesterday, and requested continuing U.S. support for an "Angolan solution" in Rwanda. (USUN 1553, Brussels 4189, TF/Embassy Brussels telcon)

• (C) Embassy Bujumbura reported increased tension in the Burundian capital yesterday, but the RSO reports that Bujumbura is "remarkably calm" today. The Burundian National Crisis Committee continued its efforts at reconciliation, and the Assembly President and the Prime Minister travelled to the provinces. (Bujumbura 1273, TF/Embassy Bujumbura telcon)

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